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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,686	08/31/2001	Jeffrey T. Aguilera	10002629-1	2107

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
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EXAMINER

CHUONG, TRUC T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2179

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/944,686

Applicant(s)

AGUILERA ET AL.

Examiner

Truc T Chuong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-12,14 and 17-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-12,14 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 01/14/05.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-12, 14, and 17-19 are pending in this application. In the Amendment, Claims 1, 10, and 14 are amended. This is made non-final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-12, 14, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,553,431 B1).

As to claims 1, 10, and 14, Yamamoto teaches a user interface comprising a simultaneous display of a plurality of first selectable icons each representing a different duplicator (figs. 9A-B show selectable icons representing printers LP3-1, LP3-2, or LP5-1 which can be selected to connect with the scanner, e.g., col. 10 lines 37-63) and a single second selectable icon (OK icon 48 can be selected to generate/activate the connections among the scanner and printers, e.g., figs. 9A-B, and col. 10 lines 37-63) that when selected actuates the respective actuators the duplicators represented by a selection more than one of the first selectable icons (figs. 9A-B disclose that

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there are more than one printers can be chosen to make the connections with the scanner at the same time).

As to claim 2, Yamamoto teaches the user interface as defined in Claim 1, wherein:

the simultaneous display of the selectable icons is a menu screen (e.g., window 45 of fig. 9A-B); and

each selectable icon is a menu item (each printer or device is a selectable icon, e.g., col. 10 lines 40-49).

As to claim 4, Yamamoto teaches the user interface as defined in Claim 1, wherein the actuation of the plural duplicators occurs in a chronological sequence selected by the user on the UI (the priority order can be defined by the user when modifying the profile of each device, e.g., col. 19 lines 6-9).

As to claim 5, Yamamoto teaches the user interface as defined in claim 1, wherein the actuation of plural duplicators selected by a user on the UI occurs simultaneously (e.g., figs. 9A-B discloses that there are more than one printers can be chosen to make the connections with the scanner at the same time).

As to claim 6, Yamamoto teaches the user interface as defined in Claim 1, wherein the actuation of the plural duplicators selected by a user on the UI occurs chronologically, simultaneously, or both (Each virtual input/output device information is sequentially displayed on the liquid crystal panel, e.g., col. 12 lines 5-16, and the priority order, col. 19 lines 6-9).

As to claims 8-9, and 11-12, Yamamoto teaches the user interface as defined in Claim 1, wherein each said duplicator has the capability of performing one or more functions selected from the group consisting of printing, magnetic tape recording (figs. 9A-B show selectable icons

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representing printers LP3-1 (LP is a laser printer), LP3-2, or LP5-1 which can be selected to receive the print jobs from the scanner, or the image data can be sent to a disk FILE-A5 as shown in fig. 9A-B, e.g., col. 10 lines 37-63), photo imaging substrate recording, recording an optically scanned image onto a magnetic media storage device, magneto optical writing, and electromagnetic radiation broadcasting transmission.

As to claims 17-18, they are method claims of system claims 8-9. Note the rejection of claims 8-9 above respectively.

As to claim 19, this is a computer program product claim of method claim 14. Note the rejection of claim 14 above.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Aiello, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,337,745 B1) teach printer management, status of the printers, and activating different printers (cols. 6-9 and figs. 6-25).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T Chuong whose telephone number is 571-272-4134. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. Chuong

04/26/05


BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER